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Monkey Cheese and Carton

A chronicle of more than 50 jewelry exhibitions by the Künzli class at the Academy of Fine Arts, Munich

Edited by Otto Künzli

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- Discover how Otto Künzli and his students answered the question of how jewelry can be exhibited
- Over 50 exhibitions that Otto Künzli developed and realized with his students in over 23 years of teaching
- Insights into the jewelry created by some 120 of Künzli's students at the Academy of Fine Arts, Munich, from 1991 to 2014

In the 23 years that Otto Künzli taught at the Academy of Fine Arts, Munich, the focus was very much on the individual, independent development of the student's path into the art world. But in order to be recognized—the artists as well as the artworks themselves—they needed to draw public attention, for example through exhibitions. Exhibiting jewelry is difficult—the human aspect is lacking and with it precisely that connection that is so essential to jewelry. These 23 years of teaching are represented in more than 50 jewelry exhibitions in Munich and across the globe, which Otto Künzli developed and realized with his students. This publication presents not only unexpected responses to the question of how jewelry can be exhibited in an interesting way but also insights into the jewelry created by some 120 students from 1991 to 2014. And if you look close enough, you may even find monkeys, cheese, and cartons.

Text in English and German.

Otto Künzli is one of the most renowned and respected jewelers working today. The Swiss-trained, Munich-based artist has created truly iconic examples of contemporary jewelry. Künzli's minimalist, yet meticulously crafted work references cultural phenomena, utilizing the power of metaphor and iconography with wit and sophistication. Künzli has an accomplished academic career spanning over twenty years. As head of the Jewelry department at the Akademie der Bildenden Künste Munich from 1991 to 2014, he taught a number of prominent contemporary jewelers including Lisa Walker, Karl Fritsch and Helen Britton.

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